initiated To encourage foreign direct investment and investment from NRIs OCBs and FIIs. The automatic approval list for industries has been expanded to allow foreign direct investment upto 100% for projects relating to electric generation, transmission and distribution, provided the foreign equity in any such project does not exceed Rs. 1500 crores. The Government has allowed forward exchange cover for incremental equity investments by FIIs. Equity investment limits for FIIs and NRIsOCBs in a company have been separated and made independent and the equity investment limits for NRIOCB have been enhanced. Investments by FII debt Funds in unlisted domestic debt securities has also been permitted.

In additon, in accordance with the announcements made in the Union Budget 1998-99, Unit Trust of India is planning to launch a new India Millennium Scheme to invite subscription in dollars from the NRIs. State Bank of India is planning to launch a new Resurgent India Bonds denominated in foreign currencies for subscription by NRIs. The budget also proposed measures to accelerate processing and implementation of. FDI.

Illegal Mandrax Tablet unit unearthed by DRI

*589. SHRMATI JAYAPRADA NAHATA: DR. Y. LAKSHMl PRASAD:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether illegal Mandrax tablet unit has been unearthed by the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence in Jiine, 1998;

(b) if so, the action taken against those involved; and

(c) the adequate measures taken/proposed to be taken to stop such activities in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI R. JANARTHANAM): (a) and (b) On the basis of specific Intelligence developed by the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence, that one Shri Pawan Saxena, is using his electrode manufacturing factory i.e. M^. Vimal Industries, located in the Industrial Estate, in Pilukhedi, Distt. Rajgarh, Madhya Pradesh, for clandestine manufacture of Mandrax tablets, the factory premises were searched by the officers of Central Excise Commissionerate, Indore-II, on 9.6.98. The search of the promises resulted in the recovery of a small quani-ty of Mandrak tablets and 160.950 Kgs. of Methaqualone powder, collectively valued at Rs. 32.19 lakhs, in the Indian market (Rs. 3.20 crores in the International Market). Two tabletting machines, dryer, mixer and dies used in the manufacture of the tablets, valued at Rs. 3 lakhs were also seized. Since the electrode factory was being used for clandestine operations, the electrode manufacturing machines, raw materials & finished products, totally valued at Rs. 10 lakhs approximately, alongwith 2 vehicles used for transport of contraband goods were also seized.

In the follow up, search of the residential premises of Shri Pawan Saxena, the proprietor of the unit, was conducted, which resulted in recovery and seizure of a small quanity of mandrax tablets, a dismantled tabletting machine along with dies valued at Rs. 1 lakh approximately. In addition, sale proceeds of narcotic drugs amounting to Rs. 5.30 lakhs, was also recovered & seized from the residential premises of Shri Saxena.

All the three persons, found involved in the case namely, Shri Pawan Saxena & his two associated viz. Mahesh Kumar and Shri Ravindra Pathak alias Ravindra Sharma were arrested under Section 42 of NDPS Act, 1985 and remanded to the judicial custody. Further investigations are in progress. Appropriate action against the involved persons including prosecution provided under. NDPS Act, 1985, will be taken on completion of the investigation.

(c) Various measures have been taken by Government of India to check the clandestine activities in relation to manufacture and marketing of mandrax tablets - which is a psychotropic substance. It has been included in the Schedule to Narcotic Drug and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985 as a psychotropic substance and for its manufacture, possession, selling, purchasing, transporting, importing inter-state, exporting inter-state or using as a drug, stringent punishment has been provided under NDPS Act. Instructi.ons/ alerts have also been issued to enforcement agencies, entrusted enforcement functions under NDPS Act, to check any such illegal activities in relation to clandestine production of narcotic durgs and psychotropic substances including mandrax tablets.. Efforts are being made to develop intelligence on identity of the kingpins and major drug syndicates involved in such illegal activities for taking appropriate strike^ction. Regular coordination meetings for effective enforcement action by various agencies are also chaired by the Director General, Narcotics Control Bureau. The preventive formations are also sensitised to the new modus operandi involved.

बैंकों में धोखाधड़ी की घटनाओं को रोकने हेतु कदम उठाये जाना

*590. **श्री ओंकार सिंह लखावतः** क्या वित्त मंत्री 14 जुलाई, 1998 को राज्य सभा में अताराकित प्रश्न 2975 के दिए गए उत्तर को देखेंगे और यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि राष्ट्रीयकृत बैंकों में धोखाधड़ी एवं गबन की घटनाओं को रोकने हेतु सरकार क्या कदम उठा रही है?

वित्त मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री आर. जनार्दनम) : सरकार और भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक के कहने पर राष्ट्रीकृत बैंकों ने धोखाधड़ियों को रोकने के लिए समय-समय पर कई उपाय किए हैं। इन उपायों में यह शामिल हैः- बैंकों में नियंत्रण तंत्र को मजबूत बनाने के लिए भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक द्वारा व्यापक मार्गनिर्देश रिजर्व बैंक द्वारा निरंतर आधार पर समीक्षा, बैंकों को विशिष्ट मामलों में अपेक्षित सुरक्षेपायों सहित उनकी पुनरावृत्ति रोकने की कार्य के बारे में परामर्श देना, परिचालन कार्मिकों का उचित प्रशिक्षण और प्रमुख धोखाधड़ियों के सूचित मामलों की जांच एवं संवीक्षा तथा धोखाधड़ी की सम्भावना वाले क्षेत्रों में भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक द्वारा अचानक निरीक्षण, जिसमें प्रणालियों एवं प्रक्रियाओं तथा आंतरिक व्यवस्था का निरीक्षण शामिल है।

सभी राष्ट्रीकृत बैंकों में सतर्कता तंत्र है, जिसके प्रमुख केन्द्रीय सतर्कता आयोग के परामर्श से सरकार द्वारा नियुक्त किए गए मुख्य सतर्कता अधिकारी हैं। यह सतर्कता तंत्र निवारक उपाय करने के लिए उत्तरदायी है ताकि बैंक अधिकारियों द्वारा धोखाधड़ी और भ्रष्ट आचरण को रोका जा सके।

जब किसी बैंक द्वारा धोखाधड़ी का पता लगाया जाता है, तब उनकी प्रारंभिक जांच की जाती है। उसके निष्कर्षों के आधार पर, यह निर्णय लिया जाता है कि क्या विभागीय रूप से पूरी जांच की जाए अथवा मामले को स्थानीय पुलिस या केन्द्रीय जांच ब्यूरो को सौंप दिया जाए। सामान्यतया, दस लाख रुपए से अधिक के मामले जांच के लिए केन्द्रीय जांच ब्यौरो से प्राप्त जांच रिपोर्टों के आधार पर बैंक, जहां कहीं आवश्यक होता है, नियमित विभागीय कार्रवाई करते हैं और धोकाधड़ी के लिए उत्तरदायी पाए गए अधिकारियों को दण्ड देते हैं। पुलिस तथा केन्द्रीय जांच ब्यौरो भी अभियोजन के लिए अदालतों में मामले दायर करते हैं।

Delay in Delhi-Pune flight service

*591. SHRI V. N. GADGIL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of times the Delhi-Pune and Pune-Delhi flights were delayed during the last three years; and

(b) the reasons for chronic delays?

' THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) and (b) During the years 1996, 1997 and 1998 (upto May, 1998), out of 1736 flights of Indian Airlines on the sectors Delhi-Pune and Pune-Delhi, a total of 444 flights were delayed and 7 cancelled. Of these only 32 flights were delayed and 1 cancelled because of factors within the control of Indian Airline.';.